IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of)	
PETER J. WARDLE and WILLIAM L. A. KING)	Confirmation No.: 9298
Serial No. 10/561,589)	Group Art Unit: 1797
Filed February 14, 2007)	Examiner: Brian A. McCaig
PROCESS TO PREPARE A LUBRICATING BASE OIL)) _)	July 1, 2009

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO REJECTION

The following remarks are submitted in response to the Office Action of April 1, 2009.

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 were presented for examination and all have been rejected under Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bixel et al. (WO 97/18278) in view of Germaine et al. (WO 02/070630) and the article by Gregor. Bixel is described as disclosing a process to prepare a base oil having a target viscosity index of above 80 by contacting a crude derived feedstock in the presence of hydrogen and the catalyst and then dewaxing the effluent. Germaine is described as disclosing a process to prepare a waxy raffinate from a Fischer-Tropsch derived feed which is obtained by hydroisomerization of a Fischer-Tropsch synthesis product and then is used to make a base oil with a viscosity index higher than 120. The Examiner says it would have been obvious to insert the product of Germaine into the middle of the process of Bixel to come up with the present invention. This rejection is respectfully traversed.